1909—1910

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

HISTORY
FIELDS
METHODS

287 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

History.

Purpose. The Second Article of the Constitution of this Association is:

"The object of this Association shall be to conduct Christian missionary and educational operations, and diffuse a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures in our own country, and other countries which are destitute of them, or which present open and urgent fields of effort."

Caste distinction and race prejudice were recognized to be un-Christian. The Association's commission was, and is, to carry an intelligent gospel through school, or church, or mission, by industrial training, prayer service or preaching of the gospel to those who need it most, for their physical, intellectual and spiritual elevation.

Organization. The American Missionary Association was organized in 1846. It came into existence in the midst of agitation and storm. The Negroes were slaves apparently in hopeless bondage; the Indians were the wards of the nation, pillaged, robbed and murdered according to the greed and lust of the selfish and brutal. The Chinaman was a curiosity in a few American cities. The American Highlanders, detesting slavery, but not knowing how to oppose its encroachments, were locked away in the fastnesses of the southern mountains and neglected by Christian philanthropy. Alaska was a foreign country, and no Christian responsibility was felt for its people. Porto Rico and the other new island territories were under the cruel hand of Spanish tyranny.

In the midst of these conditions the American Missionary Association was organized, that such neglected peoples might receive a free gospel and the benefits of intelligent Christianity.

Foreign fields were early occupied, and in 1854 there were seventy-nine missionaries located in foreign lands, including Africa, Jamaica, the Sandwich Islands, Siam, Egypt and Canada. When the Indian missions, as a whole, were transferred to the Association, the work was discontinued in foreign fields. A foreign society doing work under our flag, and a home society doing work under alien flags, were both confusing, and the new adjustment prevented duality of appeal and of mission service.

Indian missions were among the first efforts of this Association. As early as 1852 there were twenty-one missionaries among the Indians in the Northwest. In 1882 the Indian work, as a body, was committed to the American Missionary Association, the Indian work of the American Board being united with that already established by this Association.

Negroes. Work for the colored people at the first was somewhat feebly carried on among the refugees of Canada and among the slaves of the South. The great body of work of the Association was in the West, with a few churches in the South, in foreign fields, and among the Indians and Chinese, until 1861. In September, 1861, the first school for freedmen was established by this Association at Hampton, Va. From this simple beginning has grown the great work of to-day. Schools were rapidly organized for Negroes in other southern states. In 1863 institutions were already planted in twelve different states. This year of 1909, institutions covering instruction from kindergarten and primary to professional training to the number of sixty-seven are maintained for the Negroes of the South.

Chinese. In missions among the Chinese of America the Association was a pioneer. This work began in 1852. Thousands have been converted in its missions, many of whom have gone back to China carrying the gospel. The Chinese Missionary Soci-

ety, composed of these converts, was organized in 1886, and has sent missionaries to their native land. They have established headquarters at Canton, and also have property at Hong Kong. They have organized a church, occupying a chapel at Ci Ning City.

Japanese. An important work has been inaugurated among the Japanese. During the past few years the number of these people from the Empire of the many islands has greatly increased. They are resident among us. They present a most inviting field of missionary effort. There are at least 100,000 Japanese in the United States. This work adds very little to the missionary expenses, as that already organized among the Chinese is made available for both races. Applications are coming in from the missions in Japan for missionary workers trained in our mission schools on the Pacific Slope. Probably no more efficient method of reaching these "Yankees of the Orient" is open to our churches than through our missions in California. In addition to the work in California, a mission among the Japanese is maintained in Seattle, the A. M. A. coöperating with the churches of that city.

Highlanders. The work among the mountain people was begun very early in the history of the Association. In 1848, only two years after the organization of the Association, commissions had been issued to missionaries who were laboring in this mountain region. The beginning of the work was full of heroism and sacrifice. It reads like a romance rather than plain history. Many of these Highlanders loved freedom and hated slavery. With the interruption of a few years following the John Brown raid, and in the midst of the civil war, this work of the Association among the Highlanders has been steadily maintained and developed.

In Alaska this Association was also a pioneer. At Cape Prince of Wales a mission was opened in 1890, and with the exception of a few months during the stringent times, it has been continued. It holds a strategic point in that great region, and has already reached many, both Eskimos and whites, with Christian influence.

Porto Rico. At the close of the Spanish war the island of Porto Rico came under our flag. The Association at once sent missionary teachers and a minister to this island. Blanche Kellogg Institute, at Santurce, is a school of unusual interest and value, and the work has been very encouraging. A little company of twenty-four missionaries, including teachers and pastors, have been maintained by the Association in this island during the past year. Ten Congregational churches have already been organized, and many communities are anxious to welcome such movements.

Missions in Hawaii. The Association, in 1904, by the urgent request of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association, undertook to aid the latter in its entire work among the native Hawaiians, and the Chinese and Japanese in those islands. The Hawaiian Islands consist of a group of eight inhabitated and four uninhabited islands. They are situated 2,100 miles from San Francisco and 3,400 miles from Japan. The people of Hawaii are made up of Native Hawaiians about 40,000; Chinese 25,767, and Japanese 61,111. In religion the population is divided as follows: Buddhists 40,000; Mormons 4,886; Roman Catholics 26,-

363; Protestants 23,773. The Hawaiian Islands seem to have been providentially situated so as to form the training school of missionaries for the Orient. In the providence of God many Chinese and Japanese have settled here. Back of this work in Hawaii there lies the great field of missions in China and Japan. There is also every inducement possible in the line of home missionary responsibility to support generously this work in our new island territory. This is the gateway to Asia and means great things in the regeneration of that vast region.

Descriptive.

Educational Work. The higher institutions in the South include the following:

	FOUNDED.
Fisk University, Tenn.	1865
Talladega College, Ala.	1867
Tougaloo University, La.	1869
Straight University, La.	1869
Tillotson College, Texas	1876
Piedmont College, Ga.	1897

The schools among the Highlanders, consisting of 8, include Grand View Normal Institute, Tenn.; Pleasant Hill Academy, Tenn.; Normal and Industrial Institute, Joppa, Ala.; Saluda Seminary, N. C.; Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga.

Santee Normal Training School, Santee, Neb., is reaching the Indian people of the prairies.

Among the Chinese and Japanese are 24 schools at various points on the Pacific Slope.

In Alaska the one mission is at Cape Prince of Wales.

In Porto Rico, Blanche Kellogg Institute is situated in the northern part of the island at Santurce.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING has held an important position in the educational work of this Association for

many years. Talladega College was the first institution to introduce this important branch of study. Now almost every school in the South and West has a more or less extended department of industrial training. Large farms are cultivated in several institutions.

Equal care is taken in the training of girls and young women both in domestic and general industries. The purpose of this training is to fit the young people for larger and more efficient Christian manhood and womanhood.

Total number of institutions of all grades is 101.

Church Work. Among the Negroes there are 149 churches scattered throughout the South. Among the Highlanders the 33 churches are largely in four southern states. The 21 churches in the Indian Field are planted on reservations reaching from Nebraska to Washington, and occupying important points in five states.

In the South our churches now number 182. These churches raised towards their own support $42,802.98, and for benevolent contributions $4,438.01. Among the Highlanders the 33 churches are situated in Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama and Louisiana, and have 1,048 members.

The influence of these churches throughout the South cannot be overestimated. A quiet and powerful work is being accomplished among the colored people. Intelligent preaching, integrity of character and higher ethical standards are introduced and maintained throughout these churches.

Conclusions. Perhaps no missionary organization in the land holds so close relationship to the questions that interest

and agitate us as citizens as does this Association. The Negro problem in the South, or rather the problem of two races living together, both increasing rapidly and maintaining their racial separation in one section of our country, attracts wider attention among patriotic Christians to-day than ever before. That the solution of this problem proposed by this Association, namely, the industrial, intellectual and spiritual elevation of both races, is the only true and sure solution is the growing conviction. This message and the messenger who brings it, be he secretary or missionary of the American Missionary Association, finds a cordial and large welcome in the churches. We recognize this fact and rejoice in it.

The methods of work include every department of instruction, from kindergarten through Industrial Training and secondary schools, instruction in the higher institutions, including professional training of ministers, this Association reaches the material and intellectual and religious development of the millions of people where the institutions of the American Missionary Association are planted.

Last year this Association contributed to the support of 101 institutions which enrolled 15,221 pupils. Our churches have a right to rejoice in the magnitude of this great educational work.

Churches, Sunday-schools, Out-station Missions, were also planted and maintained, bringing broadly the influence of intelligent Christianity among these many peoples.

The economy of the work especially warrants an earnest plea for immediate and enlarged support. The fiscal year of the American Missionary Association must not close with additional debt and the work can not be sacrificed any farther.

Very encouraging facts developed in the Annual Report of the Executive Committee that will be especially appreciated by those interested in this work. Those who come within the field of the American Missionary Association service manifest an increased appreciation of the benefits of the work which they enjoy by bearing an increased amount of the expense from year to year. There was an increase of local receipts from the schools of the South.

Ten churches among the Oriental Missions of the Pacific Slope, with a membership of 521, present a remarkable showing. The benevolent contributions from these churches for the support of their church and mission work was $10,267.00, an average of twenty dollars per member.

The increasing work of the American Missionary Association, the many new problems of philanthropic, patriotic and missionary importance which are coming into this field in addition to the important problems already included, are more and more appreciated by our constituency. The field is nation-wide, including both Continental and Insular United States. Many peoples representing peculiar racial characteristics that need to be studied industrially, intellectually, morally and spiritually all unite to make the appeal of the American Missionary Association upon the constituents of our churches and patriotic and philanthropic individuals more powerful today than ever in the history of the American Missionary Association.

Christian Endeavor Hall, at Blanche Kellogg Institute, Porto Rico, is built. The Christian Endeavorers of our Congregational denomination did much toward the erection of this building, and the need of immediate contributions for the support of the Institution is pressing.

With the sanction of the Advisory Committee the American Missionary Association appeals this year for $250,000 from living donors.

This committee has organized with a secretary

in the field. Several of the states have created a Bureau of Benevolences or a State Board to coöperate in securing from the churches the apportionment as determined by the committee. The movement is one of importance and we trust will prove successful in securing from the churches the full amount assigned by the National Committee for the American Missionary Association during this current year.

American Missionary Association

Statistics 1908-1909

EDUCATIONAL WORK SOUTH

	Negro	White	Totals
Theological	3	1	4
Colleges	3	1	4
Secondary Institutions	25	3	28
Elementary Institutions	9	3	12
Affiliated Institutions	5	—	5
Ungraded Schools	22	—	22
Officers and Instructors	489	81	570
Pupils	13,199	2,022	15,221

CHURCH WORK SOUTH

	Negro	White	Totals
Churches	149	33	182
Members	10,280	1,048	11,328
Missionaries	95	15	110
Out-Stations			45

WORK AMONG THE INDIANS

(Including Alaska)

Churches	21
Members	1,538
School	1
Missionaries and Teachers	42
Pupils	267
Out-Stations	24

ALASKA

Mission	1
Missionaries	1
Church Members	242
S. S. Scholars	350

WORK AMONG CHINESE AND JAPANESE

Schools	24
Teachers	49
Pupils	2,109
Churches	10
Members	521
Conversions	185

PORTO RICO

School	1
Instructors	8
Pupils	159
Ministers and Missionaries	16
Churches	10
Members	591
Out-Stations	22

HAWAII

American Missionaries	6
Chinese and Japanese Evangelists	19

GENERAL SUMMARY

Schools	101
Pupils	17,756
Missionaries	805
Churches	223
Church Members	13,978
Out-Stations	91

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287 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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REV. A. F. BEARD, D.D.

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The American Missionary (Magazine).

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A. F. BEARD, Editor.

Correspondence

Relating to the work of the Association should be directed to one of the Corresponding Secretaries; relating to the finances, to the Treasurer, New York.

Donations and Subscriptions

May be sent to H. W. Hubbard, Treasurer, New York, or, when more convenient, to one of the District Secretaries. A payment of $30 constitutes a Life Member.

Woman's Bureau.

Correspondence of Woman's Local and State Organizations, and all interested in women's work, may be held with Miss D. E. Emerson, Secretary, New York.

Form of a Bequest.

I GIVE and BEQUEATH the sum of ——— dollars to "The American Missionary Association," incorporated by act of the Legislature of the State of New York. The will should be attested by three witnesses.

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